



HANOVER

Plymouth County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Hanover is a pastoral/suburban community in Plymouth County which was first settled in 1649 and incorporated in 1727. The town's early economy was based on agriculture and lumbering. The lumber was used for house building and shipbuilding while other early industries included grist mills and iron forges. By the 18th century, the town had made itself a very self-sufficient community on a sturdy agricultural and industrial foundation, with a wealth of water power resources and a shipbuilding complex on the North River. Hanover was in fact one of the major industrial centers of southeastern Massachusetts at the time. Thirty ships were built in 1801 on the North River and the town's anchor forges made the anchors for the United States Navy and are said to have supplied the anchor for the U.S. Constitution. Unfortunately, a market for larger ships than the North River could hold ended the shipbuilding industry in Hanover. The town was the site of the invention of the first tack-making machine, and making tacks and fireworks were among the industries of the later 19th century for Hanover. These manufacturing jobs brought immigrants from Lithuania and Poland, who established their own settlements within the town. However, the most significant post-civil war movement was toward residential subdivision development as the main roads from Brockton and Boston were improved in the 20th century. Residents are proud of the Four Corners Section of Hanover, which retains its authentic period village character, and of their close-knit and friendly town.

(Seal supplied by community. Narrative based on information provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Norwell on the north and east, Pembroke and Hanson on the south, and Rockland on the west and northwest. Hanover is about 17 miles north of Plymouth, 23 miles southeast of Boston, and 220 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 15.72 sq. miles

Land Area: 15.61 sq. miles

Population: 11,912

Density: 763 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Hingham Station)

Normal temperature in January.....27.4°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.5°F

Normal annual precipitation.....47.7"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Hanover, Cohasset, Weymouth, Whitman

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 826-2261

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Administrator

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1727

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	7,215		
Democrats	2,237	31.0	%
Republicans	1,350	18.7	%
Other parties	3	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	3,625	50.2	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Hanover town, Plymouth County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	13,164	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	13,164	100.0
Male.....	6,445	49.0	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	90	0.7
Female.....	6,719	51.0	Mexican.....	20	0.2
Under 5 years.....	1,013	7.7	Puerto Rican.....	20	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	1,095	8.3	Cuban.....	10	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,174	8.9	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	40	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	894	6.8	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	13,074	99.3
20 to 24 years.....	481	3.7	White alone.....	12,798	97.2
25 to 34 years.....	1,337	10.2	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,457	18.7	Total population.....	13,164	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	2,067	15.7	In households.....	13,135	99.8
55 to 59 years.....	792	6.0	Householder.....	4,349	33.0
60 to 64 years.....	475	3.6	Spouse.....	3,081	23.4
65 to 74 years.....	752	5.7	Child.....	4,954	37.6
75 to 84 years.....	484	3.7	Own child under 18 years.....	3,750	28.5
85 years and over.....	143	1.1	Other relatives.....	487	3.7
Median age (years).....	37.5	(X)	Under 18 years.....	148	1.1
18 years and over.....	9,243	70.2	Nonrelatives.....	264	2.0
Male.....	4,412	33.5	Unmarried partner.....	123	0.9
Female.....	4,831	36.7	In group quarters.....	29	0.2
21 years and over.....	8,889	67.5	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	1,613	12.3	Noninstitutionalized population.....	29	0.2
65 years and over.....	1,379	10.5	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	535	4.1	Total households.....	4,349	100.0
Female.....	844	6.4	Family households (families).....	3,567	82.0
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,904	43.8
One race.....	13,079	99.4	Married-couple family.....	3,081	70.8
White.....	12,858	97.7	With own children under 18 years.....	1,709	39.3
Black or African American.....	73	0.6	Female householder, no husband present.....	349	8.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	10	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	141	3.2
Asian.....	101	0.8	Nonfamily households.....	782	18.0
Asian Indian.....	23	0.2	Householder living alone.....	662	15.2
Chinese.....	25	0.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	384	8.8
Filipino.....	3	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	2,002	46.0
Japanese.....	2	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,090	23.7
Korean.....	22	0.2	Average household size.....	3.02	(X)
Vietnamese.....	19	0.1	Average family size.....	3.39	(X)
Other Asian ¹	7	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	4,445	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	4,349	97.8
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	96	2.2
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	5	0.1
Some other race.....	96	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.9	(X)
Two or more races.....	85	0.6	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	1.6	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	4,349	100.0
White.....	12,927	98.2	Owner-occupied housing units.....	3,803	87.4
Black or African American.....	98	0.7	Renter-occupied housing units.....	546	12.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	30	0.2	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	3.18	(X)
Asian.....	122	0.9	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.90	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	4	-			
Some other race.....	78	0.6			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	0
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	8
Federal (Section 8):	0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Hanover is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 3 (the Southeast Expressway), 53, and 139.

Rail

Commuter rail service to South Station, Boston, will be available in 1996-97 on the Plymouth Line. MBTA subway service to Boston is available on the Red Line from Braintree and Quincy. The Bay Colony Railroad provides freight rail service to West Hanover. Contact number: (781) 380-3556

Bus

Hanover is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). The Plymouth and Brockton Street Railway Company provides commuter service to Braintree Station on the Red Line and to Boston.

Other

The Marsfield Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility located 2 mi. E of town, has a 2,999'x 75' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision. Boston Harbor Commuter Services and Mass Bay Lines, offer commuter boat service from Hingham to Boston.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

Mill Pond Rest Home

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.